

Serial No. 10/538,413
Atty. Doc. No. 2002P84076WOUS

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REMARKS

Claim 15 is amended herein. After entry of these amendments claims 12-21, 23 and 24 are presented for examination. Applicants respectfully request entry of these claim amendments, which are only to claim 15, which are intended to place the claims in better form for consideration on appeal.

Applicants also note that the attorney docket number properly is 2002P84076WOUS, not "2004P84076WOUS" and respectfully request that future Office Communications be so marked.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claim 15 stands objected to because of the following informality: "an" should be deleted in line 6.

Applicant has amended claim 15 to remove this "an." Entry of this amendment and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC 112

Claim 15 stands rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as their invention.

The basis for this rejection is the assertion that the phrase "a like-formed" renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear whether the limitation(s) following the phrase are part of the claimed invention.

Applicants note that this amendment was made in the 02/26/2007 Reply in part in order to overcome an apparent lack of antecedent basis in that the shoulder and the circumferential slot of the first brush carrier were not previously recited in claim 12, from which claim 15 directly depends, and the article "the" was used immediately before the first and only recitation of these features in claim 15.

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Applicants have amended claim 15 herein to remove the term "like-formed" but to leave the "a" in order to address this perceived lack of antecedent basis.

Entry of this amendment and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC 103

The Applicants acknowledge the prior art rejections under 35 USC 103. The prior art rejections are not argued herein but will be addressed via a planned appeal of the final rejections. This paper serves to eliminate the claim objection and rejection under 35 USC 112, thereby placing the application into better condition for consideration upon appeal.

Conclusion

The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees due in connection with this paper, including the fees specified in 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 (c), 1.17(a)(1) and 1.20(d), or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2179.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 8/10/07

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